(v) Development of microprocessor based control system for Diesel Locos.

(vi) Transfer of technology for 3 phase drive AC Electric locomotives has been taken from M/s. ABB for indigenous manufacture of these locomotives at CLW. The Prototype indigenous locomotive would be manufactured in 1997-98.

(vii) The track modernisation and renewals are being planned keeping in view the anticipated traffic and speed of trains. Accordingly, targets have been fixed for track renewals and modernisation for the IX Plan. The main objective of the IX plan for track planning will be to wipe out the arrears of track renewals on A,B & C routes, to carry out the current arising of track renewals on A,B, & C routes, to reduce the arrears on D & E routes, to cater for annual arising of track renewals to the extent of 3250 km, to replace metal sleepers on A,B, & C routes by concrete sleepers, renew the existing 90 R turnouts on running lines on A,B, & C routes, to weld 4 lacs joints p.a. by flash but welding process, and to extend mechanised track maintenance to cover about 50000 kms. by the end of the IX Plan as against 30000 kms. as on 1.4.97. In order the meet the above targets, funds to the tune of Rs. 13200 Cr. will be required. Actual progress will however, depend on the availability of funds for track renewal.

(viii) As a long term plan, Railways have decided to provide optic fibre communication in Railway Electrified area for control communication. Similarly, the existing underground telecom copper cable in Railway Electrified area shall be replaced by optic fibre cable as and when it becomes due for replacement.

(ix) The existing Electro mechanical exchanges are being replaced by digital electronic exchanges in a phased manner.

(x) Railways are replacing their old and worn out analog microwave communication systems by digital microwave systems for improving long distance administrative communication circuits and also for providing back upto control communication in case of failure to underground telecom cables.

(xi) Railways are introducing Universal Emergency Train Radio communication system between train, guard and the nearest station to enable immediate response in case of emergencies/accidents. The work has already been taken up as a pilot scheme, this will be extended to other sections.

(xii) Microprocessor based Public Address System informing passengers on platform about the status of the train running is being provided progressively at important station. Further, to provide visual display of train information on entrance gates and on platforms, electronic train display boards are being installed at important stations in phased manner.

(xiii) The easy to remember '131' enquiry telephones are also being provided progressively for train enquiry at important stations.

Capacity of Ramgarh GTPP

3707. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the planned capacity of Ramgarh GTPP was 160 MW;

(b) whether due to less allocation of natural gas, has led to sanction only one unit of 35.5 MW at Ramgarh GTPP;

(c) if so, the details of such projects in the country;

(d) whether the single unit of GT is uneconomical due to low thermal efficiency operation; and

(e) if so, the time by which the Union Government is likely to be allocated additional 5 to 10 lac cubic metre of gas per day for above project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) to (c) Rajasthan State Electricity Board (RSEB) had prepared a project report for 160 MW Combined Cycle Power Plant at Ramgarh (Jaisalmer District). However, based on the limited allocation of 0.55 MCMD, RSEB installed only one 35.5 MW GT unit at this station.

(d) and (e) No, Sir. However, additional 0.5 MCMD gas might be available by 2000-2001 which would allow RSEB to install a second 35.5. MW GT unit and also to go for a Combined Cycle operation of the power plant with the installation of another 35.5 MW for higher rating) steam turbine unit, using the exhausts to the two gas Turbines.

Corruption Cases

3708. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases of corruption, dishonesty and assets disproportionate to the income of civil servants investigated by the Vigilance Department of the Ministry in 1995-96;

(b) the number of officers involved in the above, Grade-wise;

(c) the number of complaints received against corruption and dishonesty during 1995-96 and the action taken thereon;

(d) whether the Vigilance Department initiate action suo-moto against the staff suspected to be dishonest and corrupt;

(e) whether the Ministry have made any review to the functioning of the powers of the vigilance section under their control; and

(f) if so, the datails thereof?